

All

Belle Plain, Marshall, Co

Oct 9, 1889

Hon Albion W. Tourgee

Dear Sir & Comrade

I applied in May 1880 for a pension & after waiting three years my case was rejected. Hon E. B. Taylor went to the Pension Department to get them to reverse the decision & found that Col A. S. Hall had endorsed upon my resignation Accepted but disapproved as to the causes alleged. Stating that none of the disability of this officer was incurred in line of duty" I stated in my resignation, that when I entered the service I had a small rupture upon my right side, & in the discharge of my duty I tore open that one & made a new one on my

left side & steering me across
 The kidneys which caused me
 to resign. Now I talked with
 Hall at the time I presented
 my resignation & he said he
 hated to lose ^{so} good an officer
 but under the circumstances
 he would accept of my resignation
 & then wrote something on it &
 then read to me "Accepted"
 but the Col Commanding
 expressing his regrets at losing
 so good & efficient an officer
 & then sealed it up & I carried
 it up to Gen Reynolds, I never
 knew until Taylor learned
 of it & told me in 1883 Had
 I applied in proper season
 I could have proven by Dr
 Paulding all about my heart
 but I was like a good many
 other soldiers I felt too patriotic

Now the reason of Col Hall's
 meanness & rascality & duplicity
 was this, He had detailed to of Co
 B's soldiers to attend his horses
 & one day the boys came down to
 the Company's quarters & in the
 course of conversation I said
 that Col had ^{no} right to do that
 & that they had better come down
 & go to soldiering & I said further
 that Col Hall would sacrifice
 every soldier in the Regt if he
 could get a Star on his shoulder
 or be sent to Congress & after
 Col had sealed up my resigna-
 tion he asked me about it & I
 told him I had said it & I
 would not take it back & we had
 some words about the matter
 & I left. Now Sir what I want
 is to prove to the Pension Depart-
 ment that Col Hall was

Capable of doing such
 contemptible wrongs &
 did not hesitate to employ or
 at all scruple to stoop to such
 sordid, niggardly dishonorable
 means to save himself from dis-
 grace, or to injure a man if he
 got at all displeas'd with him
 I know Judge that you have
 cause to remember Col Hall &
 know full well what kind of a
 man he was & now sir I would
 like to have you make affidavit
 to his true characteristics & if
 you know anything of his borrow-
 ing 2200 \$ of the Treasurer of
 Ashtabula for 3 days & then
 refusing to pay him. Telling him
 that if he ever said anything
 about it he would put him
^{through} for loaning the money &c
 If you can't will make

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affidavit to his true in-
verness & send it to me at
this place, you will confer a
lasting favor upon an old man
now past 62 years & one who
has not a cent to help himself
with, I am going down to
Washington D C & "beard the
Lion in his den" & see if I can
not remove the objections to
granting me a pension—

I do not know where you reside
but my son tells ^{me} to direct to
Chicago Care of Inter Ocean
& they will forward it to you

Please tell me where Capt Can-
field can be found—

Your old Comrade

H D Niles Late

2 Lieut Co B. 105, Regt 00-9